

CAMPING

UNIV. CITY
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JAN 19 1951

PERIODICAL
READING ROOM

MAGAZINE

January 1951

\$3 per year in U. S.

SPECIAL LEADERSHIP
TRAINING ISSUE

WHAT MAKES
A COUNSELOR TICK?

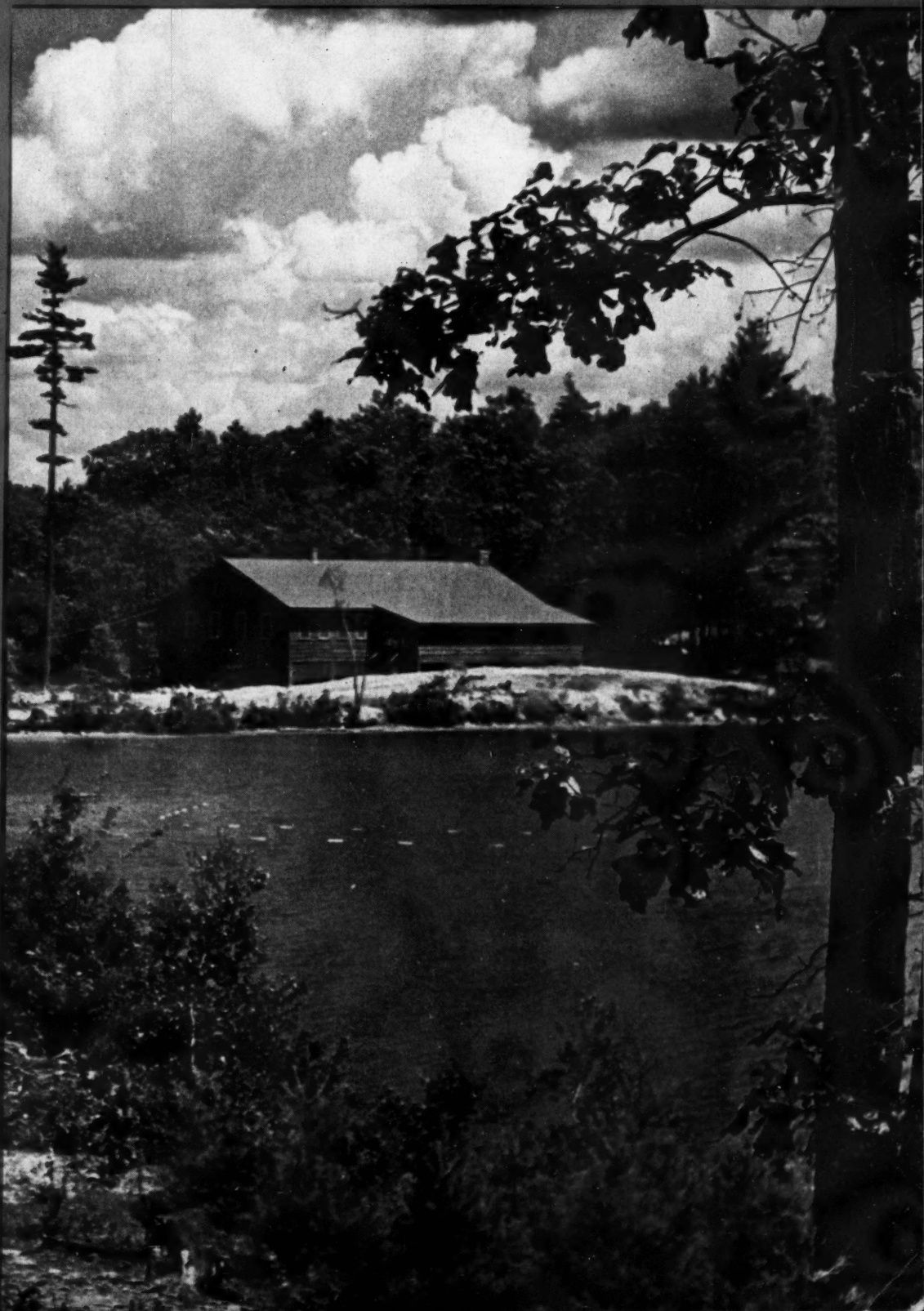
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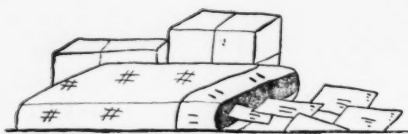
Organization.....

Address.....

City.....State.....

NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY

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LETTERS FROM READERS

The new look

May the Dayton Girl Scouts say how much they enjoy the new look in this year's *Camping Magazine*?

I am enclosing a letter regarding a program concept which may be timely for the "After Taps" column.

*Esther N. Young, Camp Director
Girl Scouts of Dayton and
Montgomery Counties, Ohio.*

The November issue just received—and most enthusiastically. A fine copy which covers the work of ACA and of camping even better than usual.

*J. Kenneth Doherty
Division of Intercollegiate
Athletics
University of Pennsylvania,
Philadelphia*

I examined the November issue most carefully from cover to cover. May I extend my warmest congratulations to the Publications Committee and to Howard Galloway, for the very excellent magazine which now bears our name. It is such a remarkable improvement over earlier issues that I could not resist writing.

*Thomas G. Cairns
Big Brothers Association
Philadelphia*

As a subscriber of a number of years standing, I have been interested in the high quality of *CAMPING MAGAZINE* and its businesslike methods since you assumed the management for the Association. Before that it was very uncertain in content and regularity.

*Bruce R. Buchanan
County Club Agent
Brattleboro, Vt.*

More on "writing home"

Regarding H. G. Seaver's "writing home problem" (*Letters column, November*):

If such irrational procedures are indulged in by some camp directors, it is small wonder others have trouble persuading people that camping is as much educational as it is recrea-

tional, and that all aspects of a camper's development are a proper concern, even his ability to continue to express himself through writing.

That Mr. Seavers has yielded to such a debilitating attitude of accommodation is but one issue. I really wonder that *CAMPING MAGAZINE* can condone such a mechanism through promulgation. Should not your editorial policy tend, through judicious selection, to promote only the best in camping? I sincerely hope that no discerning parent reads that part of an otherwise excellent issue.

*W. E. Mulliken
Camp Wampanoag
Buzzards Bay, Mass.*

Reader Mulliken is 100% correct that *CAMPING MAGAZINE's* content should be (and is) aimed to promote the best in camping. It is our belief, however, that if the magazine opens its columns to all qualified camping people who think they have worthwhile ideas, more good will result than if we in effect set ourselves up as censors who decide what is good and what is bad for every camp.

We believe that the vast majority of *CAMPING MAGAZINE* readers are—even as Mr. Mulliken—capable of separating what is wheat from what is chaff, as it relates to their own camp situation. Our philosophy of how *CAMPING MAGAZINE* can best serve the movement often leads us to the familiar quotation from Voltaire: "I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it."

Photo credits

Just received the latest issue of *CAMPING MAGAZINE* and am pleased to see that you continue to find spots in which to use Camp Manito-wish pictures. However, I do think it would be well if you were to give (camps) credit lines when you use (their) shots.

*Elmer F. Ott, Director
Camp Manito-wish
Milwaukee, Wis.*

Thanks to Reader Ott for an excellent suggestion. Effective immediately, we plan to credit each camp picture used in the magazine. Directors having good activity shots of which they are willing to contribute a print to the *CAMPING MAGAZINE* photo library are earnestly requested to do so.

Tents—pro and con

We like very much the new department "After Taps." We are grateful, too, for Mr. Salomon's article (*One Vote for Tents, November*.) Parents and other visitors to our Girl Scout camp many times end their observations with "Now if you just had some nice cabins—." And of course, we don't want "nice cabins;" neither do the girls.

May we add that we have been helped very much by the articles and suggestions in *CAMPING MAGAZINE*. Please accept our thanks.

*Mrs. J. W. Bush
Miss Pauline Walden
Camp Molly Lauman
Portsmouth, Ohio, Girl Scouts*

I am sure that you will have many responses to "One Vote for Tents", from camp directors with ample and rich experience with both tents and cabins. I have lived in both. One camp season in a tent was a miserable experience. I have found that in climates where tents can be comfortable as to temperature they are unendurable as to mosquitos and damp weather. They provide insufficient light and inadequate space and facilities for possessions without too great crowding and exposure, and the constant rolling up and down becomes a chore which adds nothing to the joy of camping.

I can see that tents can be tolerated for very short camping periods in warmer climates. That would not make them more desirable than cabins. In our elevation and climate they would be impossible. The tent complex comes from army life, army camping, not from our kind of camping. Do woodsmen use tents when they can have time for cabins? They use tents only for very temporary and movable camping places.

Certainly, if you ask boys and girls who have not been to camp or have not lived in both tents and cab-



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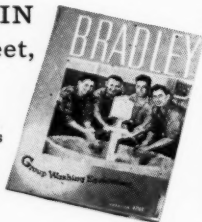
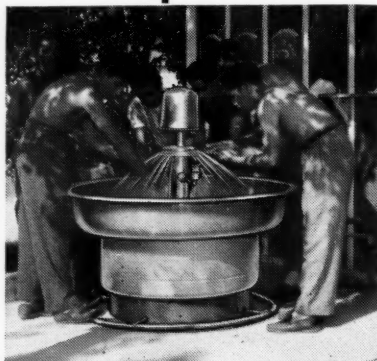
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Hills Lake Girls Camp
Clear Pool Camp
4-H Club
Camp Chippewa
Camp Columbus

Camp Delight
Camp Dudley
Camp Geneva
Camp Gregory
Camp Henry Horner
Camp Kern
Camp Lawrence
Camp Lincoln
Camp Lynwood
Camp Millhouse
Camp Newton
Camp Oh-Neh-Ta
Pine Oaks
Boysville
Camp Channing
Youth Foundation Camp
North Star Camp
YMCA Camps
Camp Duncan
YMCA Summer Camp
Glenn Helen Boys Ranch
Brandeis Camp

ins they will choose tents for they have been more or less glamorized in stories and pictures. However, ask boys and girls who have lived in cabins and see what the response will be. Even then they will want tents for trips out of camp for a roughing-it experience for a few days, but not for eight weeks living.

Mr. Salomon seems to assume that all cabins will be flimsy. What could give him this idea? That a good cabin which will stand the rough use for 30 years must cost \$1200, without toilet fixtures and other gadgets, is completely absurd, and many directors will support this contention. Very few of us would be in the business if that were true. He also states that a good tent with platform will cost \$300.00., the platform costing half of this. With \$150 to spend a careful director, not employing expensive planner, architect, and contractor, will be well along toward paying for the whole cabin. I can build any number of attractive, substantial, well planned, functional cabins with lavatories (certainly would not put toilets in sleeping cabins) for \$300.00 each.

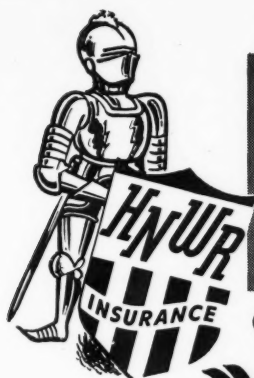
We have 30 sleeping units for from four to six campers and a counselor each. They have served us well for 29 seasons and nearly all are good for from 10 to 20 years more. By Mr. Salomon's figure these would have cost us a total of \$36,000.00. Each of our units has a lavatory, closet, screens (although not needed at this elevation,) and some have porches and counselor lean-tos. They have cost us a total of not more than \$7,000.00 and could now be replaced with better lumber and planning for not more than \$10,000.00.

A. P. Kephart, Director
Camp Yonahlossee
Blowing Rock, N. C.

Book reviews helpful

May I express to you our appreciation for references to our publications "Becoming a Camp Counselor" and "To Parents of Campers." These are obviously stimulating interest, evidence of which is reflected in the requests received for copies of these pamphlets.

Martha Branscombe, Director
Elizabeth McCormick
Memorial Fund
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CAMPING

MAGAZINE

January 1951

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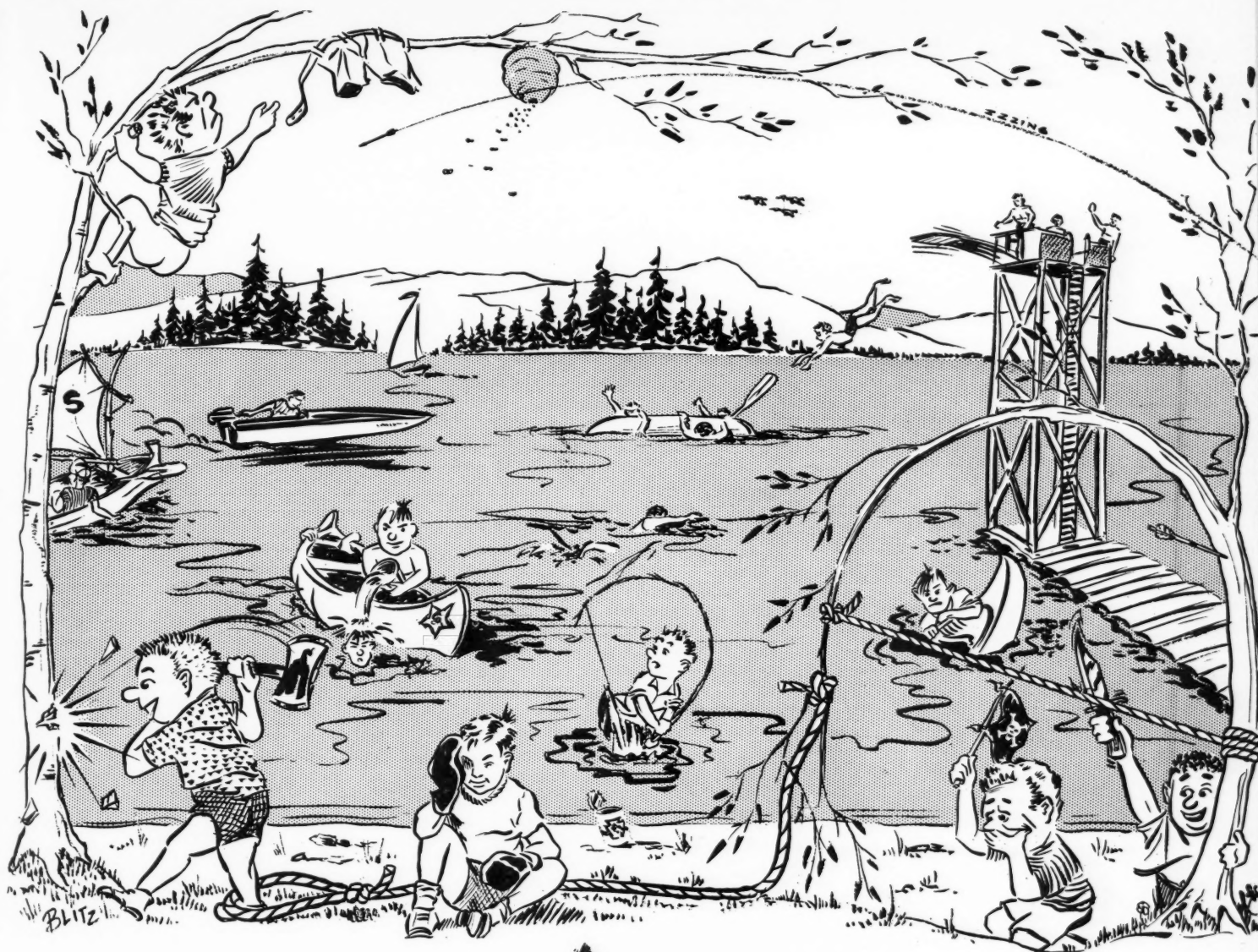
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Cover photo: Courtesy of Frank Gehr



DID YOU SAY *ACCIDENT* ?

CAMPING IS WONDERFUL! It's loads of fun and each day has its humorous side. But some of the humor sours. Larks turn into tragedies because boys will be boys and girls will be girls—

SO, be prepared with complete camp insurance provided by the pioneers of this coverage.
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25th Anniversary Year

THIS YEAR MARKS the Silver Anniversary of CAMPING MAGAZINE's service to the camping movement. Just 25 years ago, in 1926, there appeared a new publication designed to serve as a means of exchange of information among camp directors and adequately to represent, to the public, camping and its association, at that time known as the Camp Director's Association of America. A. C. Ballentine, of Camp Kehonka, has been good enough to supply the following information regarding the magazine's genesis from old files and records in his possession. In the March-April, 1926, issue of *Camping*, he states, appears the following announcement:

"It was decided at the November 1925 meeting of the Camp Director's Association of America . . . that the New England Section of the Association should launch a bulletin of camp news . . . and that if this bulletin proved acceptable to camp directors it should be turned over into the hands of the national association, to serve as its official organ. The *Bulletin* appeared. Response from directors everywhere was favorable and sometimes enthusiastic.

"At a meeting of the New England Section on April 10, 1926, the motion was made and carried that the *Bulletin* be turned over into the hands of the Executive Committee of the national association."

The name was changed at that time, Mr. Ballentine reports, from *Bulletin* to *Camping*. Four years later, according to an editorial in the January, 1930, issue, the name was changed to THE CAMPING MAGAZINE. This remains the official registered name of the ACA magazine, although often in ordinary usage the first word is omitted.

Editing and publishing of the magazine went through a number of phases during its first quarter century, with fluctuations in the magazine's fortunes in many instances reflecting the ups and downs of the camping movement and the camping association. Recognizing the need of a magazine which would be published regularly, professional in quality, conducted in accordance with sound business principles, and at the same time not be a drain on the time of the ACA national office staff, the Association, in late 1944 or early

1945, began a search for someone who might take over responsibility for publication of the magazine, while at the same time continuing to conduct it in accordance with the high ethical principles established by the Association and by the series of outstanding camp people who had served as Editors in the past.

This search led eventually to the signing of an agreement, effective with the January, 1946, issue between the Association and the present editor and publisher, Howard Galloway. Under terms of the agreement, the Association is relieved of detail work in connection with editorial, advertising, publishing and mailing, as well as all financial risk in the event of failure of the publisher. At the same time, the Association retains a considerable degree of influence over the magazine's content, since a number of controls were written into the agreement, and since both the ACA Publications Committee and the Association Executive Director frequently confer with and advise the publisher.

One way in which these controls work to the advantage of ACA is evidenced by the fact that even in these times of rising costs, the publishers have recently advised the Association they have been able to make a more favorable arrangement for printing the magazine. Ever since the beginning of the present publishing arrangement, the portion of ACA dues used for each members subscription to the magazine has been 33-1/3% or more below the regular non-member subscription rate. It is expected that the newly effected printing arrangement will result in still further reduction of cost for member subscriptions, amounting to an approximate \$1000 further saving to ACA in 1951.

CAMPING MAGAZINE has grown in stature through the years, even as has the Association itself. May it continue to grow in the years ahead, fulfilling perhaps better than ever before the aims outlined by one of the magazine's earliest editors. These are:

To provide a medium of communication between the members and Sections of the Association; to publish articles embodying theory and practice in organized camping for boys and girls, and to present organized camping to the public on an adequate plane.



Camp Waywayanda

What Makes a Counselor Tick?

BY ROBERT E. LINK
*Director of Placement,
 Brooklyn (N. Y.) College*

THERE IS NO question of whether there shall be leaders or not; that was settled when man began. A leader, according to Emory S. Bogardus in *Leaders and Leadership*, "is a person who exerts special influence over people." No one familiar with a good camp program, including crafts, music, motion pictures, swimming, athletics, nature, hikes, and a host of other activities, would for a moment suggest that they could be conducted without competent leaders. The values of play are being recognized more and more by educational authorities who realize the need for guidance and leadership in camp activities.

Good camp leadership possesses about the same qualifications that characterize good leadership in any endeavor which tends to create a healthy and appealing atmosphere by developing the mental, physical and emotional stability of young people. Counselors must be trained for their specific duties to supply the material and create the environment that will develop skills and give campers a means of properly evaluating values. Leadership — more than areas and facilities, activities and programs, important as they are — will

determine the success of the camp season.

In camp, where human relationships and values are so important, creative, intelligent and matured counselors are absolutely essential. The chief purposes of good counselors are (1) to fill the needs of campers with gripping, creative, varied activities and (2) to conduct these activities in such a way that campers are assured a healthy, happy and richly satisfying summer.

In order to serve individual campers effectively, counselors must provide each camper with an educational experience based upon individual needs such as learning how to adjust to others and to the camp environment, and finding satisfying experience within one's own particular abilities. If counselors are to help campers make this adjustment, and enjoy satisfactory social experiences, it is fundamental that counselors must give the individual the attention he needs, and also allow each camper opportunity for maximum participation in as wide a variety of activities as his abilities permit. To the extent

that the counselor succeeds in achieving this objective, he is contributing to a well-balanced, integrated individual at camp and later at home.

The counselor's infectious enthusiasm should give zest to the camp program, guided by the self-expression and initiative of the individual, permitting self-growth for the camper and eventually achieving sound educational objectives. Counselors should not overlook teaching skills needed for participation in various camp activities. Campers will enjoy most the activities which they perform well, and skill helps satisfactory participation in many group activities. Campers should require new skills while at camp.

A good counselor must be a leader of intelligence and high moral caliber to accomplish the purposes and attain the objectives of the camp program. He should possess and demonstrate qualities of leadership in his varied daily camp relationships with campers. These, in many cases, will give campers a desire to emulate their leader, creating new camp experiences.

Counselors must have genuine ability to, and liking for, working with children. Persons who get bored or

irritated at the impetuosity, immaturity, emotionality, and energy of children should not be counselors. To do a good camp job it is necessary to win the confidence of children, be able to settle differences in the group, and be open-minded at all times.

Ability to exercise democratic leadership is one of the most important requirements, for counselors are often required to adhere to camp policies and regulations without being dictatorial and without arousing antagonism in his group. The initiative of the counselor is expressed in his ability to stimulate groups to action and, working with them, to integrate the ideas of the various members into a joint planning process or camp council. Young people like action. The counselor must be resourceful in working out new ideas.

A pleasant personality is an important and valuable asset as it will help a counselor win the friendship, respect, confidence, and loyalty of his campers and the camp staff. Such traits as a sense of humor, tact, friendliness and an attractive appearance are all important. Counselors who find it irksome, difficult, and meaningless to maintain in their living the ideals and standards of camp life will find little satisfaction in their work and will probably be unsuccessful. Young people perceive insincerity and sham quickly. They are best taught by leaders who personify the ideals of camping.

An emotionally stable and mature individual who subscribes to high moral and ethical principles, who shows character and integrity in his daily relationship with campers, should be a successful counselor. Maturity, it should be pointed out, does not refer so much to age as it does to development of such traits as judgment, self-control, and emotional stability. Anyone working with children must possess these traits to be successful.

Since a counselor usually cannot at all times be closely supervised, he is constantly required to make decisions and to choose between courses of action on his own. He must handle problems, reconcile conflicting ideas, and work out compromises among his group which are satisfactory to everyone. Such work requires control over emotion, tact, patience, and sound judgment.

Counselors also assist individuals

to plan activities with other campers of similar interests. A qualified counselor offers suggestions as one of the group, so that in the active sharing of ideas campers gain experience in functioning as a group, and acquire skills in managing their own activities. The counselor should be able to draw out, strengthen, and put into effective action the leadership capacities inherent in young people. Once started, the unit camp group should



Camp Waukeela

be able to carry on successfully many activities under its own leadership.

To achieve such objectives as: guide and serve the time and interests of campers so that they will be more richly satisfying, provide organization and instruction where it is desired, and furnish means for self-expression through camp activities, camp directors need trained, sympathetic counselors. They cannot afford to stint on providing competent leaders.

Here are some prerequisites for good counseling. To be truly successful, counselors should have all, or at least most, of these:

1. A sense of the worth and dignity of every human being.
2. An understanding of the interests and needs of children.
3. A personal realization and understanding of the joy of life and of the art of living.
4. A sense of humor.
5. A desire to serve.
6. A concern with the growth and development of individuals through creative expression.
7. A sympathetic attitude toward others' opinions and personalities.

8. A keen, understanding mind.
9. An ability to lead democratically.
10. A belief in and enthusiasm for self-government, for democracy in camping.
11. Sterling character and personal integrity.
12. A pleasing, friendly personality.
13. Organizing ability.
14. Productive energy and enthusiasm.
15. Ability to get along with people.
16. A sense of loyalty and responsibility for performing duties and assignments conscientiously.

It is also important that counselors have these added traits:

1. Some special study such as would be required for majors in sociology, recreation, physical education or in any other major given at a college.

2. Maturity. This does not necessarily mean that any specific age requirement should be set for camp counselors. Maturity should not be based on chronological age alone.

3. Interest and ability to participate in informal games, contests, and events.

4. A basic liking for people, regardless of whether he is employed as a cabin counselor, specialty counselor, waterfront counselor, division head, group leader, or even director.

5. Ability to cope with the camp program, and to do some camp organizing in order to guide young people.

6. A definite plan of action, in order to maintain and be responsible for the morale of the campers.

7. Ability to compile and maintain a summary of what his campers do.

8. Desire and ability to enjoy the outdoor life of a camp environment.

9. Good health and physical stamina.

10. Some knowledge of human behavior.

In return, qualified counselors receive the fun that comes from living close to nature in the woods and mountains, which is not equalled by city entertainment. They also receive a priceless opportunity to influence young people toward positive, democratic living. The growth and achievements of the young people whom they counsel is one of the greatest rewards of any camp counselor.

Counselor Morale

By EMANUEL TROPP

Director of Activities,
Jewish Community Center, Lynn, Mass.

A CAMP is no better than its counselors. A corollary statement is that counselor morale is the key to staff effectiveness. Lack of morale can undermine the values of skills and understandings; high morale brings out the full potential of a staff. This is a challenge to the camp director and head counselor.

There are all kinds of counselors, and all kinds of motives for becoming counselors. Included are financial incentives, appeal of outdoor life, desire for social status or group-work experience, enjoyment of counseling, desire to re-live former camper experiences, *anticipation of fun and pleasure*. Regardless of all other motives, the last named is important to most counselors.

No one will dispute that counselors should never have irresponsible fun at the expense of duty. But they actually *need* and *should* experience some fun, for the sake of their jobs. It should be the fun of sharing the enthusiasm and stimulation of a good program, the fun of satisfaction from a good job well done, and the fun associated with staff esprit de corps. To be performing at top effectiveness, counselors *must enjoy* their work.

The first step in building staff morale is in *hiring*. At the interview mutual trust and good will are essential.

A big step can be taken during pre-camp training sessions. If you have well thought out and well-established plan of camp operation, counselors will derive a great feeling of security from knowing that a dependable and logical structure exists. A democratic tone in pre-camp sessions, with each counselor's ideas considered and used to the fullest extent, will impart a feeling of being respected for one's own worth.

A feeling of informal, relaxed good humor in staff relationships can open the valves for full and valuable dis-

cussions. But it should be genuine good-willed humor, not artificial humor used as a technique; counselors are quick to detect artificiality and respond accordingly. A feeling of excitement and enthusiasm in anticipation of a good camp season, based on plans that merit enthusiasm, is another builder of staff esprit de corps.

Clear-cut knowledge of job responsibility is still another aid to staff morale which can be called upon during pre-camp training. Counselors should know what their assignment is, what it entails, what is their relationship to other staff members, and what is the camp's "chain of command." It is important too to keep to the bargain, not adding additional, unexpected, supplemental responsibilities. Equally as important as knowing what and when one's duties are, is knowing that there is also an occasional time-off period for relaxation, and when such periods are.

The first day in camp is likely to be hectic and end in tiredness, anxiety about performance, and concern about unexpected developments. It is important to have a staff meeting at this time to reassure staff about the normalcy of first-day problems, to permit free discussion of difficulties and point out solutions, to show appreciation of good effort and results, and develop a hopeful, positive attitude for the morrow.

From the very beginning it is important to start showing genuine appreciation of the efforts of staff. Appreciation should, however, be reserved for things deserving appreciation and not be more false encouragement; there are always positive factors that can be found and pointed up.

Handling of individual staff problems is another avenue through which staff morale can be built. Problems are bound to develop; if staff members do not seek out the camp direc-

tor to discuss these, it is best for the director to seek out the staff members. A dissatisfied counselor has little value and may weaken staff morale immeasurably. Counselors should be approached with sympathy and understanding, and helped to solve their problems.

Requests for special consideration by staff members, if handled on the basis of granting those which are reasonable and denying — with full explanation — those which are not justified, can also be a means of developing staff morale through building staff respect for the director's fairness.

Friendly discussion with constructive help will work better than habitual criticism, when counselors fall short of expectation. Poor performance and even seeming irresponsibility often stem from misunderstanding or other harmless motives. An ounce of positive encouragement, appreciation and helpful suggestion will save a pound of criticism.

A letdown sometime during the camp season is a very natural thing. Face this squarely with the staff, recognize its naturalness, and point the way to a return to former effectiveness by a positive and inspirational presentation of "second wind" plans.

Staff social life is an important part of building staff morale. Counselors are usually young men and women at the social prime of life. Sociability means a great deal at this age, and staff parties should be encouraged. They help consolidate good feeling about being together on the staff and provide opportunity for free expression of feelings about camp life, staff and administration.

In this live and growing organism called staff morale, the positive, relaxed, happy atmosphere where a counselor's efforts are appreciated produces such overwhelming rewards that to nurture it becomes the touchstone to a successful camp season. The finest potential of staff is realized, and the campers respond in kind. Counselors develop a feeling of devotion and loyalty to the camp, and program rolls along almost under its own steam. This is a camp experience to enjoy, to be proud of, and to remember for a long time to come.

Abstracted from a more detailed article on day camping prepared by the author.

Good Training Means Good Counseling!



BY RICHARD E. STULTZ, Ed. D.
Syracuse University

Camp Wyonegonic Photo

Organized camping, as represented by the American Camping Association, is rapidly taking on the aspects of a profession. This is evidenced most particularly by, (1) increasing concern for services rendered to campers, (2) increasing realization that proper camping activities and procedures can and should constitute a medium of unique value in general education, (3) important recent steps toward the establishment, acceptance, and implementation of camping standards, and (4) a growing emphasis upon and efforts toward training and preparation of more competent adult camp leaders. It is this latter aspect with which we are most concerned in this issue of *CAMPING MAGAZINE*.

It is not assumed that the points stressed in this article are unknown or unrecognized by those in camping who are especially interested in the training of leaders. However, since leadership training is gaining a place of prominence and importance in the field, and since the last few years have brought forth a variety of ideas and efforts in the direction of upgrading the quality of camp leadership, it seems both timely and proper that we should direct some thinking toward certain fundamental processes and procedures. Such thinking will serve to focus the numerous efforts throughout the country to the end that desirable coordination and continuity may result, and a more uniform and professional preparation in the essentials of good camp leadership may be achieved.

When we consider the nature of modern organized camping and attempt to project its development in-

to the future through observing apparent trends in program and methods we begin to see certain rather definite needs which must be served by leadership. Most of these needs seem to be common knowledge among professional camping people and need not be dealt with at great length, as such, in this article. However, the problem which we are facing up to is: How can we prepare our group counselors and other camp leaders to meet these needs more effectively? How can we assure this relatively young profession of an adequate supply of leaders who are truly professional people rather than glorified "baby-sitters" or just activity specialists?

The search for a solution to this problem immediately presents two quite obvious procedures, both of which have long been in practice in practically all recognized professions: (1) pre-service training experiences, and (2) in-service training experiences. On first thought these procedures make the solution to our problem seem quite simple—just provide a course on college campuses in "Camp Counseling," in which potential counselors are told what they need to know about camp leadership, and then send them out into camp counseling positions where they will learn to apply this knowledge.

If it were that easy we would have no problem. But, somehow or other there seems to be something lacking in this method. There is difficulty encountered in getting an adequate transfer of theory into practice. So,

we not infrequently find young counselors in camps who can describe generally the theory of how they should be conducting the activities for which they are responsible, or how they should proceed in coping with problems of motivation and behavior in their cabin groups. *BUT they do not ACT as if they knew all this.* Quite often there seems to be very little detectable connection between what these counselors *say* they should do and what they really *do*. The ability to implement the ideas which they have accepted is not there.

The result is that these counselors are probably frustrated and discouraged in their situations, campers may be unhappy and disinterested, and the camp directors are dissatisfied and worried. (And, if the parents were aware of some of these situations, they probably would take their children out of the camps.)

Perhaps you agree that this kind of situation is unfortunate and regrettable. "But," you may say, "Give these people a chance to learn. After they get a couple of years of experience in camp they will catch on to the practical techniques. They will profit from their errors and eventually become good counselors."

Maybe so. Who can tell? On the other hand, they may decide that if camp-counseling is going to be so non-satisfying they want no more of it. Such persons, who might have good leadership potential, may be lost to organized camping simply because they lack adequate preparation for carrying out their duties and responsibilities. Also, while they are going through this "school-of-hard-knocks" learning process, what is

happening to the campers under their charge? Are these campers getting the kind of mature, wise, skilled, and enthusiastic guidance to which they are surely entitled?

If we are to improve the general situation to any great extent, we need to integrate learning of theory with learning through practice, by devising means which will bring the two together in a single situation. The educational advantages of doing this seem to be obvious. Anyone acquainted with modern psychology of learning realizes that effective learning is achieved only when there is appropriate change in behavior evident. All educators recognize the importance, to effective learning, of interest or learning readiness, understanding or insight into the relationships of ideas and activities, and application through doing the things which are to be learned. Effective camp leaders must not only be interested in camping, they must also know what they are doing, why they are doing it, and how it is to be done.

We must discover and apply training techniques which will make camping interesting and meaningful to prospective leaders; techniques which will demonstrate, to the point of thorough understanding, how leaders can effectively implement the ideas about camping and education which they have accepted from professional

literature, classroom instructors, and camp directors. Only through such techniques, applied in an integrating situation, can we hope to help trainees bridge the gap between theory and practice with any reasonable degree of surety and efficiency.

In attempting to do this, we must always keep uppermost in our concern the welfare of the campers who may be in some ways involved in the situation. They must not be permitted to suffer for the sake of advantage to the trainees.

Realizing that during any single camping experience, whether it be for two weeks or two months, there are limitations of time, that education takes time under even the most favorable circumstances, and that the acquisition of many concepts, knowledge, and skills is essential to good camp leadership, it becomes obviously impossible to give, in one experience, a complete and finished training in camp leadership. Hence, trainees must come into the training program with some educational background upon which a finishing experience can be built. They must already possess some of the basic tools with which to work.

It is not a purpose of this paper to attempt to set standards for the selection of trainees. However, it does seem reasonable to state that such persons should have, at the least, an

elementary understanding of human growth and development, the theory of learning, the concept of democratic living, and some proficiency in the skills of some of the more commonly used camping activities.

In view of the previously mentioned points, the following factors seem to be essential to setting up camping leadership training programs that will do the job that needs to be done:

1. A suitable situation, involving an operating camp for children or youth which is equipped with adequate facilities and staff for carrying on a program which will meet standards approved by the American Camping Association.

2. An integrated program of theory and practice, based upon a sound philosophy of camping and education for democratic living.

3. A camp staff which is qualified by reason of education and experience to carry out the training program and render effective guidance to trainees in all camping situations.

4. Selection of trainees with relation to both professional interest and background for such training.

5. An adequate library of carefully selected books and other source materials for study and reference-use by trainees.

6. Ample time, set aside within the program, for trainees to engage in independent study and to participate in organized discussions and conferences of an instructional nature.

7. Carefully planned and supervised practice experiences in leadership of groups of campers in normal camp program activities. (Trainees should never be given full major program responsibilities until such time as the staff feels they are ready to assume them.)

8. Opportunities for trainees to enter into and share democratically the processes of planning and conducting the camp program as well as their own training program.

9. A continuous and searching evaluation procedure, in which trainees share, involving the total program.

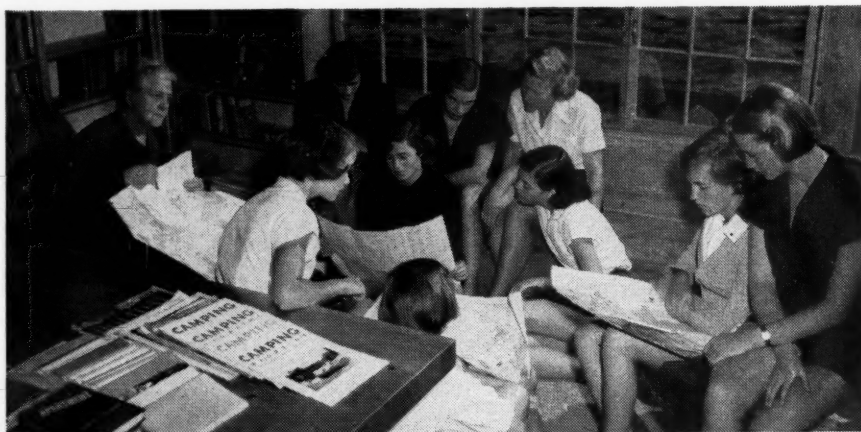
Regardless of who sets up and operates a camp leadership training program, a college, a social agency, or a camp director, it would seem that consideration should be given to these important factors.

Camping Comedy

COURTESY RAY HELLE AND FARM JOURNAL



By EMILY WELCH
Director of Counselor Training
Camp Wyonegonic



Camp Wyonegonic Photo

Counselor Training Can Be Professional

NOWADAYS 16 and 17 year old boys and girls, who are enjoying an increasing amount of freedom at home, think they have, and probably really have, outgrown the routine of a regular camper experience. At the same time, their ability and their enthusiasm for camping make them a potential source of future counselor strength that cannot be allowed to go to waste. It is too badly needed, as every camp director knows to his or her sorrow!

At Camp Wyonegonic, Denmark, Me., we are trying to be realistic about this situation. We know that so-called counselor training courses for 16 year olds, which are dependent upon the spare time of the regular counselor staff and which too often develop into work projects, are not the answer. Nor are 17 year olds, in our opinion, mature enough to assume the responsibilities involved in being a counselor. Yet, they find themselves frustrated when most camp directors will not consider them as candidates.

It seemed wise to us, therefore, to formulate a three-year plan which we hope may bridge the gap between the end of a camper experience and the beginning of a counselor experience. We have a two-year in-camp training course for the 16 and 17

year olds; we urge that these two years be followed by a summer spent in travel, if possible, to broaden horizons. If this isn't feasible, we suggest some purposeful activity for the summer, volunteer or otherwise. This brings the young people to the beginning of their college or professional work and some of them at least will be ready to start counseling at the end of their freshman year.

For this course, there is a director and an assistant who have no other counselor duties. The 16 year olds live in a separate unit, with the assistant director living nearby to act in an advisory capacity. The latter is a person professionally trained in physical education. During the first year she instructs the girls in how to teach the regular activities one finds in every camp: swimming, canoeing, rowing, camp craft, and tennis. Senior life saving is also a requirement. This work occupies the mornings.

In the afternoon and evening the girls are free to sail or play tennis or hike, as they wish. Some of them use this time to perfect their own skill, rather than just for the fun of doing it. In addition, during the summer they take several camping trips, they visit other camps, they plan a Sunday service and some of the evening programs, and they observe

the teaching methods of the regular counselor staff.

They do not attend counselor meetings, nor do they assume counselor responsibilities. From time to time they are given the chance to test their teaching ability, but always under close supervision. By the end of the summer their skills should be perfected and they should know what activity or activities they want to teach.

Once a week the group and the director of the course have a general get together. Questions about counseling begin to need to be answered, help with evening programs or the Sunday service may be the order of the day, visits to other camps may be evaluated, or the girls may want to know about specific details such as the use of a topographic or weather map. Not until the second year do we attempt to present the overall picture of what it means to be a camp counselor.

Any girl who continues the course a second year should know that she really wants to be a counselor, and should be ready to do some intensive training toward that goal. Because camp life is first and foremost a living experience, and because living with little children and with teenagers means a different approach, the second-year girls spend a part of the summer living in each unit, junior, intermediate, and senior, rather than in a separate unit of their own.

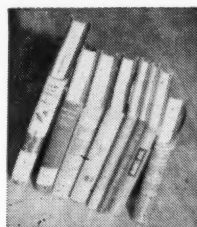
At a meeting of the group each morning, the director tries to present camping in general and the counselor's relation to her own camp in particular. This means such things as the history and present

status of the camping movement; child growth and development, with case discussions; relations with the director and with other members of the staff; program planning; health and safety of campers; etc. In addition, it means something of perhaps greater importance because it may be the deciding factor between developing a good or not-so-good counselor.

The counselor who has tricks up her sleeve, so to speak, for rainy days, for camp fires, for going-to-bed time, will be much more welcome than a one-track person or specialist. Quite some time, therefore, is spent in gathering material for these 'tricks': games, stunts, ideas for special events, simple dramatics, story telling. Ways and means of arousing an interest in nature which any counselor may use are also discussed. Such things as color hikes, spot hikes, listening hikes, are fun and often at the same time eye-openers. Counselors who are prepared to be ready to seize every opportunity as it comes are the ones camp directors long for.

In the afternoons and evenings the girls join in the life of the unit, contributing of their skills as they are able. They assist under careful supervision in teaching some of the regular activities when opportunity occurs. They plan evening programs. From time to time, they help with rest hour and going-to-bed time. They are urged to take the initiative in offering their help with the extra activities about which they learn at their morning meetings. They attend counselor meetings.

The effort is made to present counseling, not as a pleasant summer vacation, but as a job which needs a professional point of view, excellent health, emotional maturity, and the ability to work wisely by organizing one's time to prevent pressure, to rest wisely, to play wisely, and to eat wisely. There is emphasis, too, on the great compensations and exhilaration that come from living with a group of eager, enthusiastic, plastic young people in a homogeneous, friendly atmosphere of learning-by-doing, away from the superficialities of urban life and the relentless routine of the school program. Camp living can be living at its best and the well-trained counselor can help to make it so.



THE NEW BOOKS

A Department Conducted by Prof. Charles Weckwerth, Director of Recreation and Camping, Springfield (Mass.) College.

A FIELD GUIDE TO THE SHELLS OF OUR ATLANTIC AND GULF COASTS, by Percy A. Morris. Published by Houghton-Mifflin Co., Cambridge, Mass., 1947, \$3.50. Reviewed by John W. Brainerd, Biology Department, Springfield (Mass.) College.

With this pocket field guide, a youth leader can perhaps keep one jump ahead of bright-eyed youngsters who are sure to notice the shells along the sea shore. A few of the persevering children may themselves pore over the 40 full-page photographic plates which present a wealth of pictures for comparison with unknown specimens. A paragraph of text supplements each illustration, the plate and text for each species bearing page cross references.

This volume represents a tremendous stride in the right direction. It is to be hoped that this shell book can gain enough popularity to warrant future, improved editions. The book is worthy of wide use by those who like to wade in salt water and to comb sea beaches, people who crave knowledge of the beautiful world around them, and who realize that the only way to learn is to creep up on knowledge, like a "plodding Pelecy pod."

WEBS IN THE WIND, the Habits of Web-Weaving Spiders, by Winifred Duncan. Published by The Ronald Press Co., New York City, 1949. 387 pages, \$4.50. Reviewed by John W. Brainerd.

The author discovered that "the spider family had a talent for architecture unequalled in the invertebrate world." Miss Duncan herself has an exceptional ability in weaving, having created strand by strand an enjoyable and useful story of spider webs.

During the study through which we accompany her, night and day, indoors and out, she makes significant additions to spider science. Even more noteworthy, her enthusiastic attitude to-

ward little "unimportant" living things bedews her gossamer writing so that our eyes are drawn to new, fascinating angles of our daily life.

The book is too full of detail for most of us to read straight through. But it is not the detailedness of a multi-termed scientific report; rather it is the closeness of attention to amazing little things which loom large in a spider's world. It is nature study at its best.

SIX PICTURE PACKETS. Published by M. A. Donohue & Co., 711 Dearborn St., Chicago 5. \$1.00 per set. (Order direct from publishers.)

Indian Pictures. In this set there are six pictures, in four colors, size 10x12 inches. The artist is Lone Wolf, an outstanding Blackfoot Indian. Campers who are studying Indianlore should find this set of real interest; some might like to decorate their cabins with these colorful pictures.

Animal Babies. This is a set of 12 pictures, beautifully reproduced in four colors, and also 10x12 inches in size. The artist has caught very real expressions on the faces of the animals, and they should prove quite appealing to younger campers, if hung in a Junior Lodge or wherever younger campers have their activities.

Traveling with the Birds, Wild Animals, Domestic Animals and Birds at Home. These attractive sets, of 12 pictures each, are all reproduced in four colors and are the same size as those mentioned above. These sets might well be used in a nature room to add color and give inspiration to campers. Of the four sets, perhaps the least attractive, from the point of view of a camp, is the domestic animals set.

TWENTY TEPEE TALES FOR "Y" INDIAN GUIDES, by M. M. Lotz and

Douglas Monahan. Published by Association Press, New York City. \$0.75. Reviewed by Charles F. Weckwerth.

All the peoples of the world seem to like stories. Our libraries are stocked with legends and folk tales of all lands and civilizations. Both primitive and civilized tribes and nations have passed on stories for generations. Speakers and lecturers, whether in informal gatherings or in academic settings, are quick to illustrate their salient points with stories. Little folk and big fry oftentimes tell tall tales with vivid imagination. Sunday school, the playground, the camp, the voluntary agency, the home, the school, the street corner, the club, the hideout—all are places where stories can be heard.

However, the leader's problem is always one of selection when time is of the essence and at a premium. What stories can I tell to boys between the ages of seven and nine? These are important years for very imaginative minds at such an age level. Stories which illustrate, as well as challenge one's good standards of behavior, are important for such boy groups.

This little collection of Indian stories has been well selected and told simply and succinctly. The busy leader can quickly read each story for personal retelling, or read directly from the printed page while sitting around the fire. In addition, following each story are listed a number of very provocative questions. These appear to the reviewer to guarantee interested and pointed discussion among eager listeners. Such an inexpensive collection of Indian tales should be in the personal library of all leaders of youth.

THE HORSEMAN'S COMPANION, by Margaret Cabell Self. Published by A. S. Barnes & Co., New York City, 1949. \$3.00. Reviewed by Grace L. Webster, graduate student, Physical Education Department, Springfield (Mass.) College.

This is a thoroughly delightful book which should be included in every camp library. It is written for children by a person who has spent a good many years coming to understand children and their ways around horses.

Liberal interwoven with anecdotes and stories is practical advice



about such things as how to buy a horse, how to care for him, how to ride him on the trail and in the ring, how to dress yourself and your horse and what to do if you have a pony named 'Wow' who becomes cast in his stall and feels sure that he must be dead because he had tried to get up "... hadn't he? And he found that it was no use. No, he was dead and so he might as well stay dead, and that was that!"

The novice or the expert will enjoy this book; the novice for the practical advice that it has to offer and the expert for the delightful narrative. It is illustrated with very amusing drawings by Wesley Dennis which bring chuckles to those who have worked with children and horses.

40 RAINY DAY GAMES, 60 SWELL PLAYMATE GAMES, PLAY ALONE FUN, and 80 PLAY IDEAS, by Caroline Horowitz. Published by Hart Publishing Co., New York City, 1950. 96 pages, cloth, \$1.25 each, paper \$0.50 each. Reviewed by William H. Koch, Jr., aide to the Director of Recreation and Camping, Springfield (Mass.) College.

This selection of four paper-bound books is part of the *Happy Hour Series* of books written by the author for children from 4 to 14. The entire series is written primarily for direct use by children, and type, format, line drawings, and text are appropriately designed for young readers. *40 Rainy Day Games* is particularly designed for the 9-14 age group, *60 Swell Playmate Games* for the 7-13 age group, *Play Alone Fun* for the 6-9 group, and *80 Play Ideas* for the 4-7 age group.

The books contain a wealth of

ideas for play-alone games, word games, paper-and-pencil games, simple stunts, dramatics, and many, many ideas for crafts projects requiring little equipment or supervision.

The chief value of these little volumes lies in their possible use by camping people as a source of ideas for cabin group, individual, and perhaps even specialty activities and projects, all nicely cataloged by age groups. The amount and variety of the suggestions presented, as well as their simplicity, will serve well to keep a counselor supplied with ideas to meet the needs and interests of his campers. There are eight additional volumes to the series.

CREATIVE PLAY ACTING, by Isabel B. Burger. Published by A. S. Barnes & Co., New York City, 1950. \$3.00. Reviewed by W. T. Simpson, Head of Department of Drama, Springfield (Mass.) College.

This text is evidently designed to instruct both teacher and pupil. It gives many pertinent suggestions to both directors and amateur actors. Throughout the text I find evidence that the author is fascinated by the term "creative." With a well-written play-manuscript before him, an experienced director can *create* a living, breathing performance. Within the frame of such directors' layout, the players become *creative* in making the roles real people.

The experienced, ardent actor so closely associates himself with his character that he truly transcends his ordinary self. The audience becomes aware of that elevation of the spirit which Maxwell Anderson claims is the goal of all good playing. This experience will come when we have a good script, an intelligent director and earnest, attentive actors, be they young or old.

In my own experience, with professional and amateur, I have found youth of all types and ages showing avid interest in the basic fundamentals of stage movement and speech. Such training becomes more than a jolly good time. Youth soon discovers the beauty of good performance based upon the work and experience of creative artists of the past.

This text seems to try to combine the problems and disciplines of good technique with the *laissez-faire* attitude of a playground romp.

The President's Page

REYNOLD E. CARLSON
ACA President

CAMPING leaders have been giving serious thought lately to the role camping can play in the national emergency and in strengthening our civilian defense effort. Experts in camping have been in consultation with government officials in this regard.

Surely we all want the camping movement to make a maximum contribution to our national welfare. Camping has its own unique part in improving civilian morale and in the development of the nation's youth in the fields of initiative, resourcefulness, independence, physical vigor, and ability to survive under primitive conditions. The possible use of camp facilities and areas themselves, in an all-out defense effort, has been considered.

In view of the real contribution to the nation which camping can make, the ruling of the National Production Authority placing camps in the same category as many types of commercial recreation demonstrates a serious failure on our part to interpret sufficiently to others the values of camping. Such a ruling points up the need for the American Camping Association to build itself into such a position that it can speak with a strong united voice for the entire camping movement.

To serve effectively, then, our association must itself be more effective. Those of us who were privileged to participate in the Bynden Wood workshop spent three days in consideration of this problem. Here are some convictions of my own which, though not new, were strengthened at the workshop.

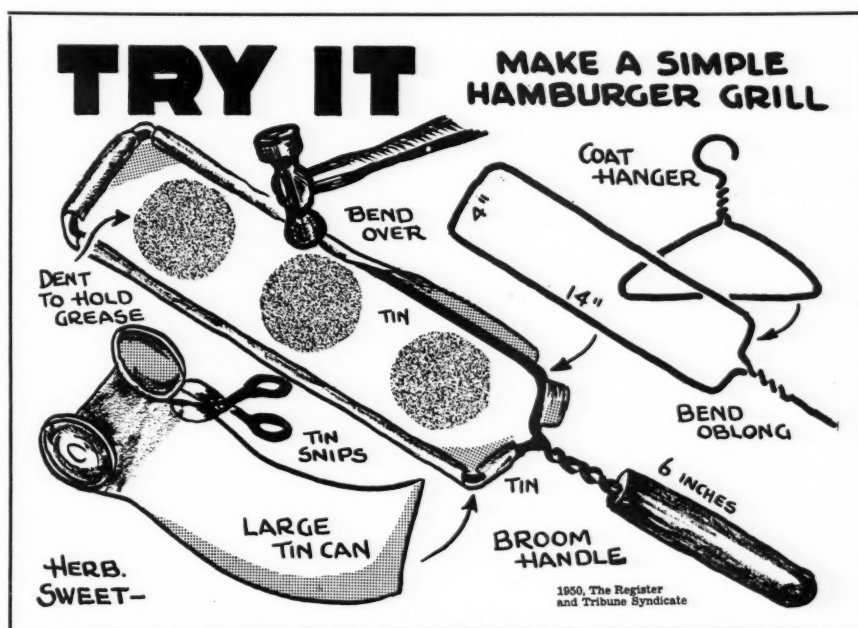
First, there is a great need for interpreting the values of camping to the public and to other groups. Articles which have appeared in certain magazines during this past year have demonstrated a lack of understanding of both the values of camping and the purposes of the American Camping Association. We must

make it generally known what good camping is and that the improvement of camping is our business.

Second, the national movement must be strengthened by including a higher percentage of camps and camp personnel in its membership. Though our present membership campaign is laudable, our growth must continue through constant effort, not through spurts. We must show non-members the advantages of belonging—the stimulus that comes from association with like-minded enthusi-

asts, the chances for self-improvement through education, the advantages to camping that come from a strong united movement. More than these, we must let non-members know that they can best contribute to the camping movement by joining. We need their cooperation in the improvement of camping standards and practices; we need their support in advancing the interests of good camping.

Third, our association is limited in some respects by its financial position. Our ability to render service both locally and nationally will be increased as we secure more funds. The placing of more members in higher classifications and the searching out of new sources of funds in the form of gifts will help us toward a goal of sufficient strength to play our part in the world today.



Editor's Note: This is the first of a series of cartooned craft ideas, prepared by Herb Sweet, ACA vice-president and operator, with his wife, of Acorn Farm Camp, in Indiana. Others will appear in future issues.

I have seen this simple grill used in several parts of the country by campers of different ages. This is a good craft project to work out in camp before an evening cook out. These grills can be made in several shapes, but this demonstrates an easy method for beginning out-of-door cooks. Campers can also take them home for family picnics.

Campers will need tin snips to cut

out a long section from the side of a large tin can. Cut it the width desired, but handle with care. An ordinary coat hanger can be bent in an oblong shape about four inches by fourteen inches. Straighten the hook so that the wire can be inserted into a small hole bored into the end of a six inch section of broom handle. This serves as a handle for the grill.

Cut the tin so that there is three-eighths of an inch left over to bend over the coat hanger frame. With a round head hammer bend the edge, and pound in small hamburger sized indentations to hold the grease which helps prevent burning.



Animal, Vegetable or Mineral?

A Few Words of Advice to the Nature Counselor

By WILLIAM HILLCOURT
National Director of Scoutcraft, BSA

AS A NATURE counselor, it is your responsibility to awaken in others curiosity, wonder and love of nature. Your success will depend on your personality, your understanding and your approach.

Your personality

You can't get others enthusiastic about nature, unless you are genuinely enthusiastic yourself. A bubbling, contagious enthusiasm is your best ally for catching the interest of others—not the artificial slap-on-the-back kind, but the kind that is the result of a deep love for nature in all her forms. The sincerity of your enthusiasm will be evident to all who come in contact with you—they will soon catch some of it themselves.

But enthusiasm is not enough. You need a certain amount of leadership ability to go with it. Almost any person who knows where he is going can become a leader. It is a matter of having a program that you believe in, and the ability to present it simply and sincerely.

Your understanding

It is of great help if you have a good general understanding of nature—not necessarily the deep insight of an expert, but rather the knowledge of the interested amateur. You need not be a walking encyclopedia. On the contrary, it will prove of far greater importance to the people with whom you deal, if

you can get them to seek out the information for themselves, in field books and pamphlets, rather than have the answer pat for them the moment they ask you. There is no question which of the attitudes is better when, for example, a youngster brings you a wiggling snake and you have the choice between, "Well, well, what have we here? Let's see if we can find out what it is!" or "That's a garter snake! Next!"

One of your big objectives is to inspire others to become self-active, self-observant and self-reliant. But that requires far more than an understanding of subject matter: It requires an understanding of the people you are attempting to lead—a realization that any one of them is as important as any one else. Remember that each has his own interests and is trying to pursue them to the best of his ability, gropingly, perhaps, and needing a helping hand.

If you can make each person feel your sincere interest in him, you will have little difficulty in inspiring him to do his best toward broadening his own knowledge and toward advancing the work of the group.

Your approach

In dealing with campers, your main problem is to catch them long enough to influence them. You have them for a few fleeting weeks only. They come to camp with their own ideas of what they want to do. To

many of them nature is "sissy-stuff." You must prove to them that it is virile and vital. This cannot be done by setting a morning or an afternoon period aside for "Nature." It must be done by correlating nature with the rest of the program, making use of opportunities as they come along, creating experiences—infiltration, if you like. It must be done through *Exploits* and *Excitement*.

Hiking along some twilight hour, you may happen on a deer. A quiet warning silences the group. "How close can we get to it?" There's a thrill to stalking a deer through dew-laden grass. There may be a beaver dam somewhere near camp. An evening's vigil watching the colony at work will never be forgotten. Climbing for a squirrel's nest—diving for samples of life from the lake bottom—gliding silently in a canoe close to a kingfisher's perch—getting up before the break of dawn to listen to the bird chorus—there's excitement and challenge to each of these exploits.

Excitement in the beginning to the few, perhaps—but you want to reach them all. You want them all in on the fun. How interest the others? By souvenirs brought home from the trips — beaver-gnawed branches, a live snake, a praying mantis, an ant-cleaned animal skull. By publicizing the unusual on the bulletin board of camp or meeting room. By creating nature trails and trailside museums. By short nature reports around the council fire. By making the uninitiated feel the mysterious fraternity that somehow exists among nature enthusiasts, and making them eager to join it.

You can catch youth through a great number of nature activities. The trick is to spring the right activity at the right time, keeping at it as long as it thrills—then shifting to another before the interest wanes. A little here, a little there—it takes time and effort and patience to teach a youngster to walk woodmanlike through nature, aware of the teeming life around him.

(This article is extracted from the chapter "Getting others interested in Nature" from the recent edition of "Field Book of Nature Activities," by William Hillcourt, published by G. P. Putnam's Sons.)



12

Pointers on Woods Courtesy

IN YOUR own home, or in the homes of friends, you follow certain commonly accepted rules of good manners. In the woods there are different but no less definite codes of woods etiquette. When these are violated it is usually through carelessness or ignorance rather than by deliberate intent. It is the privilege and duty of those who respect and know how to use the out-of-doors to help others who are just getting acquainted with the forest environment. Most of the following rules relating to wilderness manners are probably familiar to you. In fact you may think of some that have been omitted. The following suggestions are made in order that you may feel more "at home" and avoid danger or criticism when you are in the woods.

1. Treat your forests as thoughtfully as you would want others to treat your own garden or home.

2. Though in the wilderness, remember that others have preceded and many will follow you.

3. Ask permission before going on private land, and be particularly careful of fences, crops, and domestic animals.

4. Be careful about destroying vegetation. Do not needlessly muti-

late flowers, ferns or trees, nor harm wildlife.

5. Play fair. Observe the fish and game laws. These are designed to regulate hunting and fishing so as to assure a permanent breeding stock and reserve a fair share for each hunter or fisherman.

6. Do not touch or disturb the children of the forest. The baby bird, fawn or rabbit that you think is "lost" probably has parents who only await your departure before taking over.

7. Be very careful with fire. Misused or uncontrolled fire can become your worst enemy, destroying your tent, your belongings, the forest, the soil, the wildfolk, even your own life. So fire building and fire prevention merit your careful study and attention. Remove all inflammable materials to a safe distance before lighting your fire.

8. Be sure your fire is out before you leave it. Put out every match. If you break them between your thumb and fingers before throwing them away, you will be certain they are out.

Crush out every cigarette. Tear the butt apart and dump the tobacco, to be doubly sure it is out. Be equally careful with cigars and pipes. Do not smoke at all in the

woods when they are very dry. Smokers cause four out of ten fires in some states.

Drown every fire. Do not merely pour water on it. Wet ashes will form a "roof" that keeps the water from reaching the coals below. Take a stick and stir and dig while splashing on more water until every coal is dead.

9. Bury or burn filth and rubbish. Avoid polluting springs, streams, or lakes.

10. Leave your picnic ground, campsite, or cabin in as good condition as you found it—or better, if possible. Assume that the next camper may be drenched or freezing, so leave a supply of dry wood and kindling in a protected place.

11. Help keep trails open and in good condition. Do not drop papers or other rubbish along trails or roads.

12. The true woodsman is always friendly, hospitable, and ready and willing to help anyone in need.

From "When You Are in the Woods," a booklet published by the New York State College of Forestry, Syracuse, New York, in March, 1950. A copy of the booklet will be sent upon request to Room 121, Bray Hall, College of Forestry, Syracuse 10, N. Y.



THIS CRAFT INSTRUCTOR really knows his feathers. He should—for he's a full-blooded Arizona Indian whom the boys admiringly call Chief Black Wolf.

They're your boys... and ours, too!

These seven "**part-time Indians**" are typical of the youngsters at any summer camp. They're *your* boys all right, you're a pal, a teacher and an inspiration to every one of them.

It may surprise you, but we think of them as *our* boys, too! Like you, we want to help them grow up to be healthy, happy Americans. That's one of the reasons we take so much trouble to see that the food we sell is as good as it possibly can be.

Long before harvest time, General Mills grain survey men are afield in the grain country—checking the quality of the oncoming crop. Later, when the grain reaches market, we'll know where to buy the choicest for our flours and foods.

At our Products Control Laboratories, hard-to-please inspectors continuously test all General Mills food products. Into their test tubes and ovens go samples of these products from each of our mills and plants. And then—to make sure the foods reach you just as fresh and good as when they leave our plants

—we constantly check, test, and improve the containers they're packed in.

Why do we do all this? Is it because serving our customers well is the best way to build our business? Yes, of course, but more than that—we *owe* it to them to keep the quality of General Mills products always the same... consistently superior.



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LISTEN! Starting next month, announcements promoting camping are scheduled for the following General Mills network radio programs: "The Lone Ranger", "Live Like a Millionaire", "Armstrong of the S.B.I.", "The Breakfast Club."



Leaders' Training Camp Held

BY MADELINE SANFORD
*Publications Chairman, Central
 New York Section, ACA*

OUR SECTION of ACA, working with several other organizations in the field of youth work, ran a very successful cooperative New York State Leaders Training Camp last spring. What follows is a report of this meeting; we hope that some of the ideas in it may prove helpful to camping people in other areas, who may wish to develop similar courses or make additions to courses they already run.

The New York State Leaders Training Camp for camp directors, counselors and camp committee members was held at Hidden Valley 4-H Camp at Watkins Glen, N. Y., June 5 to 10. It was sponsored by the Rochester and Syracuse Camping Division of the Social Agency Councils, the New York Extension Service, and the Central New York Section of ACA.

More than 75 attended and took

part in classes in social recreation, crafts, water safety, conservation education, campcraft, song leadership, and allied subjects. Intensive classes were held each morning and afternoon, for a total of 4½ hours per day. Each camper was permitted to enroll for but one course.

In addition there were afternoon discussion-group meetings on "People in Camp" and "Camp Philosophy," a vesper service each day, and evening discussion groups on various phases of camp administration. There were also shorter courses or seminars on orienteering, leadership problems, outdoor recreation, and camp ceremonies. These were open to all in attendance.

Experts in the fields covered were on hand as instructors, but the primary method of learning was through sharing of knowledge and skills with other members of the camp.

The New York State Traveling Library provided us with many books, which were always in use whenever there was a moment to spare. In addition, a library representative told us how this service was available to camps during the summer.

Plans are already made for our 1951 leaders' training camp, and we look forward to an even more rewarding experience this year.

Group-Work Principles Effective In Pre-Camp Training

BY MARTIN P. SILVERMAN
Student, Springfield (Mass.) College

MANY DIRECTORS have faced the problem of how to make pre-camp staff training interesting, vital and useful. One director found part of the answer in greater use of group-work principles.

So he could start at the point where his counselors were, he set up a small committee representing staff to consider values, methods, etc., of pre-camp training. The committee concluded training of value should (1) acquaint staff with the camp and its routine, (2) aid counselors in gaining basic skills knowledge, (3) introduce counselors to each other and develop esprit de corps, and (4) add to counselors knowledge regarding the age group with whom they

would be working. Thus, the value of pre-camp training was "sold" to the representative counselors.

Next, the committee was asked which activities and skills would be most helpful. Through their recommendations, the director was able to help them develop a curriculum designed especially for their needs. Here was the "starting-point" principle again at work.

Another group-work principle—group members sharing group responsibilities—was used in getting more experienced staff members to lead discussions, direct activities, etc. This plan also set counselors thinking in advance of camp about camp.

Methods of presenting material were also discussed, and the com-

mittee felt a discussion period, followed by a workshop and then by another brief discussion period would be best. A third group-work principle was involved—learning can best take place when one is actively participating in an activity.

Next the committee, guided by the director, made up the daily schedule for the training session. It was patterned after a regular camp day, so counselors could see and feel how the camp actually operated. The entire staff was notified of the committee's meetings and plans, sent a copy of the training-session program, and invited to offer improvements.

The resulting pre-camp training session proved very successful. Not only did counselors obtain the specific information they needed, but also experience in calling into play basic group-work principles. Camp, counselors, director, and campers all gained from the plan.

NEW IDEAS for your camp

Information • Products • Literature • Service • for Camps
Use handy coupon below to obtain additional FREE information

Waterproof resin glue suitable for boat building and repairing, for gluing outdoor furniture, for craft-shop and other similar uses is described in a folder offered camp directors by The Borden Co., Chemical Division. Included are directions for using the product. Known as Cascophen, the glue is said to make completely waterproof and weatherproof bonds. (123)

Low-cost hot-water and steam service for users who cannot justify the large capital investment required for industrial boiler installation, are described in literature available from Malsbary Mfg. Co. Included is information on capacity, operating features, types available, etc., as well as pictures of typical units. (126)

Analyzing costs of hot water heating methods is made easy by a new bulletin prepared by Pick Mfg. Co. The bulletin contains a cost-check table designed to promote comparison between various heating methods, and also catalogs and points out features of the

compact Pick Instantaneous Steam Injection Heater. Savings of up to one-third in fuel, installation and maintenance costs are also cited in Bulletin WH-12. (110)

Tableware designed especially for camps and other institutional uses, is now available in an expanded line of Jade-ite Fire-King cups, plates, bowls, according to a recent announcement from the manufacturers, Anchor Hocking Glass Co. Said to be the lowest priced, high quality ware on the market, the producers claim its use can reduce service costs as much as 50%. (111)

A new foot bath featuring a combination sponge rubber mat and reservoir which automatically feeds fungicide solution to the mat as it is used, for as many as 1500 treatments, thereby eliminating frequent fillings, overfilling, splash and waste, has been announced by Foam-X Co., who offer camps a free test designed to prove at no expense the value of the method. (112)

Dishwashing machines, in ten sizes and types to suit every need, are pictured, described, and specifications given in a new two-color folder prepared by Autosan Division of Colt's Mfg. Co. Included is information to help the reader decide which machine is best for his needs. (113)

Coupon books, for easing problems of handling camper purchases at the camp store or trading post, are the subject of a leaflet prepared by Allison Coupon Co., which gives a step-by-step description of how any camp can operate the coupon system. (114)

Rowboat kits, which combine seaworthiness with high-level craft activity and low cost, are the subject of literature available from C. C. Galbraith & Son, Inc. Also described and pictured are the company's line of floats, diving boards, and boats of several types. (115)

Solving seating problems on the camp grounds is the aim of a new product, S and R Seat Ends. These metal seat ends, which are quickly set up by inserting boards to make benches, offer many advantages to camp directors. Operation is simple; almost any normal size of board can be used, and built-in tightening bolts make setting up very simple. Winter storage problems are also greatly eased; when dismantled, 100 seat ends can be stacked in an ordinary closet. The wood seats, too, can be efficiently stored and protected from winter damage. Sherman-Reilly, Inc., the manufacturers, will gladly send full information to all interested camp officials. (116)

A new type dock, with wooden planking, and all-steel adjustable undermembers, is the subject of literature and photographs available from the manufacturers, Patent Scaffolding Co., Inc. Bulletin PTS-17 tells and shows the dock's ease of erection, complete adjustability, various sizes, widths, and shapes available, and other useful information for camp directors planning to refine their waterfront facilities. (117)

Camping Magazine, January, 1951

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ACA NEWS

ACA Members to Vote on Candidates For Three National Offices

ACA members will shortly have opportunity to vote on candidates for three national offices which are to be filled this year. The positions are those of President, Vice-President (agency camp representative,) and Secretary. Nominating Chairman James L. Bagby, of Jackson, Tenn., and his committee composed of a representative of each of the ACA regions, have secured the acceptance of two or more candidates for each of the posts which will become vacant this year.

In keeping with the practice begun a few years ago, brief biographies and pictures of the candidates are given here, in order that ACAers may know more about them and thus vote more intelligently. Candidates are as follows: for president—Elmer F. Ott and Otto K. Rosahn; for vice-president—William N. Goodall, D. Winton Hartman, and Wayne C. Sommer; for secretary—Mrs. B. H. English and Miss Catherine T. Hammett.

Elmer F. Ott

Elmer Ott, a candidate for president, has been a camp director for more than 20 years, the last 13 of which have been with YMCA Camp Manito-wish for boys and girls, in



Elmer and Mrs. Ott

Wisconsin. He also is director of camping for the YMCA's North Central Area, in which position he supplies leadership to 30 Y Camps in several northwestern states.

An ACA member since 1927,

Elmer has served nationally in the positions of treasurer, vice-president, and chairman of the Personnel Committee. Although he does not hold a national office at present, he is active in the Wisconsin Section as chairman of its Finance Committee. He is also a former Wisconsin Section president.

Elmer was graduated from Lawrence College, and did graduate work at the University of Chicago, University of Iowa, George Williams College, and Marquette University. From the last named he received his Masters Degree.

In between all his other activities, he found time during 1947 and 1948 to direct camps for 90,000 children in Germany under auspices of the International Committee of the YMCA, and to serve as a camping expert for the AMG in Germany.

Otto K. Rosahn

Otto K. Rosahn, the second presidential candidate, started his career



in camp leadership in 1923, when he first became a counselor. Since 1935, he has been the owner, operator and director of Camp Birchwoods, a private co-ed camp in Massachusetts.

Otto first joined ACA in 1932, and has served nationally as chairman of the Constitution Revision Committee, and as interim chairman of the Finance Committee, to which position he was appointed in November 1950. He has also served the New York City Section in many capacities, such as chairman of its Regional Conven-

tion program committee, Secretary, and at present is Section President.

Otto was graduated from Columbia College, and received his Masters Degree from Columbia University. He has also completed the course requirements for his doctorate at Columbia, and at present is carrying on research work in camping education at New York University.

From 1927 to 1945 Otto taught at Boys High School, Brooklyn; since 1945 he has devoted his full time to camping. From 1940 to 1950 he was guest lecturer on camping at Teachers College, Columbia University.

William N. Goodall

Bill Goodall, a vice-presidential candidate, hails from California, where he has been associated with



the American Youth Hostels organization, as its assistant executive director. His work consists of formulating, planning, and helping to execute the program of hosteling in this country.

A member of ACA for the past five years, Bill's most recent office has been that of President of the Pacific Camping Federation (a group of some ACA Sections.) He has recently resigned this position, since his work has required him to move to New York City. In addition, Bill served as the 1947 Federation conference chairman. He is a member of the Southern California Section of ACA.

Bill attended the New England Conservatory of Music, Juilliard School of Music, David Mannes School of Music, Columbia Univer-

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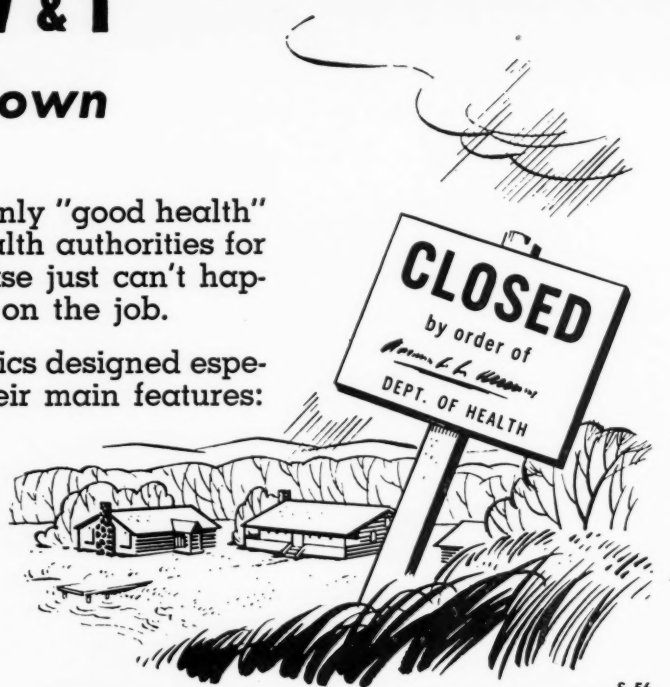
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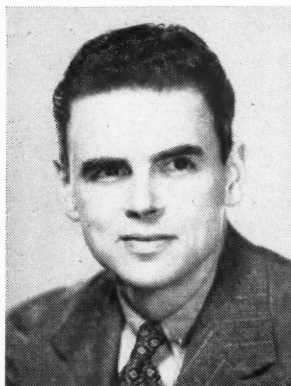
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sity, and Washington University in St. Louis. His camping experience began at the Luther Gulick Camps, in Maine. He has also been the director of a private camp for boys, a recreation specialist with the National Park Service, and director of Camp Cuyamaca, the pioneer school-camp program of California.

During World War II, Bill served for four years with the American Red Cross, in this country and abroad.

D. Winton Hartman

"Wint" Hartman is director of camping and Assistant Scout Executive of the Minneapolis Area Council, BSA. In this position, he directs the camping program for 16 Minnesota counties which comprise the Council. Since 1944, he has been engaged in the construction, develop-



ment and supervision of Many Point Camp, in northern Minnesota. The camp covers 1700 acres and has a current capacity of 2,000 boys.

In ACA, Wint has been a member of the Minnesota Section since 1935, on its Board of Directors since 1945, chairman of the 1948 Region V Convention, Section President 1949-1950, and chairman of the ACA national Convention Policies Committee since 1948.

Wint attended the University of Minnesota School of Social Work, and also the National Training School for Scout Executives. He was a Boys Club director for five years, has been active in Scout camping in the Minneapolis area for 22 years, and director of camping since 1939.

Wayne C. Sommer

Wayne C. Sommer, another of the ACA vice-presidential candidates, has been in one phase or another of camping or recreation almost continuously since he held his first job 20 years ago as a counselor for a camp near Cleveland. At the present time, he is director of the camping program and Executive Director of the Camp Letts Branch, of the Washington, D. C., YMCA. He has held this position for approximately four years. Prior to that he was Recreation Secretary of the Council of Social Agencies of D. C., which position provided opportunity to visit and observe many camps in the vicinity.

As with many busy people, Wayne has found time to take part in a number of volunteer activities connected with the fields of camping and recreation. He has been a member of ACA since about 1943, and served as the 1949-51 president of ACAs Capitol Section. For three years he was secretary of the American Recreation Society, is past president of the National Recreation School Alumni Association, and also past president of the D. C. Alumni Club of Miami University.

Educationally, Wayne got his start from Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, from which he received his B. S. He also attended the National Recreation School in New York City.

Catherine T. Hammett

Kit Hammett, who is a candidate for re-election to the ACA Secretaryship, has been active in camping for 30 years. At present she is one of the owners and directors of Derrybrook, a training center for outdoor living, in Vermont. Derrybrook, which began operation about two years ago, is Kit's way of putting into action a long-felt desire to do something specific to make possible a larger supply of adequately trained camp leaders. Prior to her present association, Kit was director of the camping division at the National Headquarters of the Girl Scouts. Still earlier, she was active in direction of church and other camps.

In ACA, Kit has served in many capacities since 1936, both in the

New York City Section and nationally. At present she is National Secretary, and prior to that she was chairman of the National Program Committee and the Committee on International Camping.

She has been the contributor of much authentic literature on camp-



ing, being author of "Campercraft A-B-Cs;" "Your Own Book of Campercraft," the first edition of which sold more than 100,000 copies; other material which has appeared in books, pamphlets and magazine articles.

Like some of the other candidates for ACA office, Kit's experience has had an international flavor. In 1944-45 she was a member of the staff of the UNNRA mission to Greece, where she helped the Greek government to organize and expand camping for children in that country.

Quinelle English

Mrs. English (her friends call her "Sunny") is the director and co-owner of Wanaka, a private camp for girls located at Woodland Park, Col.



In this position she has charge of the camp's promotion and also direction of its program. "Sunny's" camping career began as the youngest camper, and progressed through junior counselor, senior counselor, head counse-

lor, and director, to ownership of her own camp. For four years, she directed Audubon Camp for Girls.

In ACA "Sunny" has served in a variety of capacities at Sectional and National levels. She was first the vice-president and is currently president of the Southwest Section.

In addition to her camp and ACA activities, Mrs. English, who lives with her husband and daughter in Fort Worth, Texas, is also associated with the Shakespeare Club, University Players, University Art Club, and the Delphian Study Club.

Final Planning for ACA's Seven Regional Conferences Underway

ACAs series of seven regional conferences, spotted geographically so as to make possible attendance by all Association members without undue traveling, get under way late in January and continue through April. Both President Reynold Carlson and Executive Director Gerald Burns have strongly urged all ACA members to make plans to attend the conference which will be held nearest their home location. Excellent programs of practical material designed to help all camping people do a better, more successful job are being planned. Details on the conferences, presented in chronological order, follow.

Detroit meeting

January 31 to February 3 are the dates for the regional conference to be held at Hotel Statler, Detroit. On the first day, an all-day meeting of the ACA Board of Directors is scheduled, and registration of members attending the convention but not the Board meeting will be under way from 1:00 to 9:00 p.m. Registration will continue the next morning, and the first regular session of the conference will take place at 10:00 a.m., when kindred-group meetings will be held. Meetings are planned for camping people from Boys' Clubs, Scouts, Camp Fire Girls, Schools, Churches, Y's, Private Camps, Settlement Camps, etc. In the evening, Wes Klusmann, former national president of ACA, will address a general session of all conventioners. Friday and Saturday will also see many meetings, both all-conference and smaller discussion groups considering specific topics. There will also be the official annual ACA business meeting.

Featured speakers, in addition to Mr. Klusmann, will include such well-known men as Dr. Fritz Redl, Dr. William Alexander, and others.

Dallas meeting

What is expected to be the largest ACA convention ever held in the Dallas region will be under way February 1 through 3 at the Student Union Building, Southern Methodist University, Dallas. A meeting of camping people by kindred groups will begin the convention Thursday afternoon, and this will be followed in the evening by an address by ACA National President Reynold Carlson.

Group meetings are scheduled for Friday morning, on the general theme "New Goals in Camping." The

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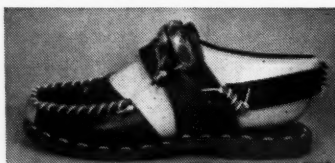
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business meeting of the convention will follow the noon meal, and the afternoon program will consist of workshops devoted to such subjects as camp administration, counselor training, health and safety, camp crafts, and many others of vital interest to nearly all camping personnel. A banquet in the evening will feature an address by Dr. George Donaldson.

Saturday morning's session, which will be open to guests, friends, and all interested in camping, will include a panel discussion by parents and camping experts on the topic "What I expect a Camper to Get Out of His Camping Experience." This will be followed by the closing session at which the speaker will be Dr. Hedley Dimock, dean of George Williams College, Chicago. Dr. Dimock will talk on "Camping Looks to the Future."

Boston meeting

Camping folks in the New England region will hold their conference on February 8 through 10, at Boston's Hotel Statler. While program details had not been received

when this issue went to press, it can be assumed that the New England meeting will amply live up to the high standard which has been set by the Boston meetings in past years. Actively at work in planning the convention are Section President Bradford Bentley, Convention Chairman Larry Emmons, Exhibits Manager Oscar Elwell, and Section Executive Secretary Marjorie Conzelman, as well as many others.

Featured speakers already announced include Dr. Charles Noble, Dean of Hendricks Chapel, Syracuse University; Dr. Erwin Canham, Edi-

tor of the Christian Science Monitor; Dr. Gerald P. Burns, Executive Director of ACA; and Dr. Paul Limbert, President of Springfield College.

Washington (D.C.) meeting

The problem uppermost in the minds of the Region III Committee was a most successful 1951 Convention. This they agreed upon; how it was to be done was something else again. Directly connected with this \$64 question was "What are the most important problems confront-

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ing camping today?" The Convention Committee, after a lot of hard work and assisted by many others, decided on the theme "Campers ARE Citizens." Speakers and discussion leaders will be top camping directors, counselors, government executives, and outstanding educators.

Arrangements have been made with the Wardman Park Hotel to set up a Daniel Boone Room. This will operate during the entire convention as a workshop on outdoor living, using actual exhibits, slides and movies as working tools. Mr. Raymond Gregg, Chief Naturalist, National Capital Parks, is supplying materials and resource people for this workshop.

Another room has been secured and will be the Craft Shop. As the name indicates, this will be an actual workshop demonstrating by doing many varieties of arts and crafts projects adaptable to camps.

In two other rooms will be scheduled discussions related to (1) administrative problems and practices, and (2) personnel recruiting, training, supervision and conditions of employment.

The three-day program has been arranged to include three official dinners and two noonday luncheons. All these dinners and luncheons, plus the usual expenses for registration will be available to the participants at a cost of \$20.00. For those who register before February 1st a special rate of \$18.00 is being offered.

The dates of the convention are February 22, 23 and 24. The Convention Headquarters is the Wardman Park Hotel, 2660 Woodly Road N.W. As Washington is the show-place and Capital of the Nation, special arrangements are being made for sight seeing tours. For further information about this convention write to Wayne C. Sommer, Chairman, Middle Atlantic ACA Convention, 1736 G Street N.W., Washington 6, D.C.

Memphis meeting

ACA's regional conference for camping people in the southeastern states is scheduled for March 7 to 10, at the King Cotton Hotel, Memphis. With James Bagby as convention chairman, and C. L. Carlisle as president of the host Tri-State Section, the conference will officially open on Wednesday evening and continue through the final sessions on

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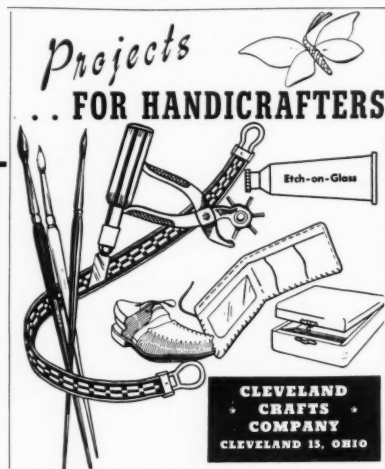
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Saturday morning. Included will be meetings of groups with kindred interests, general sessions for all in attendance, and small group-discussion sessions given over to consideration of specific subjects of interest to the conferees. The grand banquet of the convention is scheduled for Friday evening.

All ACAers in the area covered by the Louisiana, Southeastern, Tennessee Valley, and Tri State Sections, are invited and urged to attend.

California meeting

The Pacific Camping Federation, comprising 11 ACA Sections in the far western part of our country, will again hold its annual convention at Asilomar, Calif. Dates are March 29 to April 1, and John McKinley of the San Francisco YMCA is general chairman.

There will be a pre-conference training session for conference leaders on Thursday afternoon, and the meetings proper will get under way Thursday evening, with a general session featuring a well-known speaker.

On Friday, kindred groups will meet in the morning. Under the general theme "The ACA in Action" a series of committee meetings of the Federation will take place in the early afternoon, followed by small-group sessions discussing specific problems of interest to those attending.

Saturday's program will include general sessions featuring addresses by the main speaker, small group sessions, and a counselors institute. On Sunday, there will be a chapel service, a conference on "Camping Highlights and Trends," reports of session leaders, and a closing address by the principal speaker.

New York meeting

New York City will be host to the ACA sections located in New York State, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, at the Region II conference to be held April 4 through 7 at Hotel Biltmore. A general program outline, prepared by Conference Chairman Herman Baar, appears below. Also actively assisting in the conference planning are Section President Otto Rosahn, Section Executive Secretary Mrs. Ellie Travostino, and many other members.

The first day, Thursday, will be

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PARENTS' MAGAZINE

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devoted to consideration of administrative problems, and will include the ideas of "outside experts" and the experience of camp directors. There will be a session on camping standards.

Friday's sessions will take up problems and ideas concerned with staff and program, while on Saturday the convention will move into the field of director-parent relationship, with sessions for parents on "How To Choose A Camp", a panel on "What I Expect Out of Camp," and a luncheon where parents and directors will examine their similarity of interest in child development under the topic "Your Camper is My Child." Also on Saturday there will be camper participation, and an opportunity for staff participation.

New York training courses are announced

Two camp counselor training courses expected to prove of interest to directors in the New York area are those which will be conducted by Arthur Selverstone at New York University School of Education, and by M. David Henkle at Hunter College, both of which are in New York City. Both courses will be given during the February semester; Mr. Henkle's is scheduled for Tuesday evenings, 6:50 to 8:30 p.m., while Mr. Selverstone's will be held Saturdays, 9:15 to 10:30 a.m., and also will include a weekend experience at the New York University camp.

Rosahn is named to head ACA Finance Committee

Otto Rosahn, president of ACAs New York City Section, has been named to head the national ACA Finance Committee, by President Reynold Carlson, following resignation of R. Fox Smith. Mr. Rosahn's appointment is an interim one, and he will serve until the new ACA president, to be elected this month, makes his selection of a permanent chairman for the year ahead.

Section-activity reports are not included in this issue, due to volume of other news material related to ACA election of officers and regional conventions. Section activity reports will be resumed in the February issue.

NEW Fire Proof FIRE-FIGHTING BROOMS



Perfex Fire Fighting brooms can easily be handled by any boy or girl camper and should be placed about every camp within easy reach as standard safety equipment. In the open campsite they are especially essential for water is not immediately available there. One of these Fire Fighting brooms in a handy place in your camp may prevent a serious forest fire.

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White House Youth Conference Attended by ACA Representative

BY CAROL HULBERT
Past President, ACA

The Midcentury White House Conference on Children and Youth met in Washington, D. C. from December 3 to 7. For the first time in the history of these important Conferences, the American Camping Association was included among the 443 youth-serving agencies which were invited to participate. Adult delegates for ACA included President Reynold Carlson, Executive Director Gerald Burns and Wayne Sommer, president of the Capitol Section. Also for the first time, young people were invited to be active participants and ACA is justly proud of its four youth delegates who took an active and intelligent part in the work of the Conference. These four young people, under the counselorship of this writer, were: Miss Ruth Lorber, 91 Arundel Place, St. Louis, Mo. (St. Louis Section,) Miss Betty Pek, Russell Sage College, Troy, N. Y. (New York Section,) Mr. Ed Blacklock, Jonesboro, Ga. (Southern Section,) and Mr. Robert O'Neil, 100 Memorial Drive, Cambridge, Mass. (New England Section.)

The charge to this fifth White House Conference was to provide each child with a fair chance to achieve a healthy personality. In the words of the National Committee: "The purpose of the Conference shall be to consider how we can develop in children the mental, emotional, and spiritual qualities essential to individual happiness and to responsible citizenship, and what physical, economic, and social conditions are deemed necessary to this development."

The magnitude of this undertaking is worthy of comment. Approximately 6000 people attended the Conference in the National Guard Armory. Through state and local action, 100,000 people grouped in 2,000 committees worked for over a year to prepare material for the Conference. Representatives came from every state of the union and from Hawaii and Alaska. Close to 300 international observers from 41 foreign countries were also among Conference participants. Never before has so large a group met in one place for

so long a time to consider the well-being of young people.

Those of us who read *CAMPING MAGAZINE* feel sure that camping is one of the important factors which contributes to the healthy personality of children and youth. Particularly is this true in times of war and

threat of war. Unfortunately camping in particular and recreation in general received rather short shrift in the Conference planning, but due to the presence of your ACA delegates, a resolution recognizing the value of group experiences in a natural setting was written into the records of the work group on "The Use of Leisure Time—A Factor in Personality Development."

Those who were present at the Conference were impressed by the vigor, clear thinking and courageous

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optimism of the youth delegates. Their presence added poignancy to all deliberations and their expressed belief in the future should bring courage to us all. Our own youth delegates wrote of the Conference as follows:

"One on the most eye-opening features of the White House Conference was the great emphasis which was placed by the youth on their need for faith and their feeling of its importance. This 'faith,' it was brought out again and again, was not only a religious faith but, more important, a personal faith in our democratic American ideals and way of life, and an individual faith in the ability of the youth of today to carry out these ideals. Perhaps evidence of their strong feeling was the reaffirmation time and time again of their dismay over color segregation. At the Conference, negro and white delegates lived and worked together unconscious of the color or creed of their next-door neighbor and fellow worker. They pointed out to the adults that they as a group were willing to do everything possible to eliminate all types of segregation but that they needed adult cooperation in the project."

A report of the Midcentury White House Conference on children and youth will be in printed form in the near future. All who are leaders of youth should buy this report, study it, and use much of it in the training of counselors who in turn will be guiding our camping youth through the difficult years ahead.

ACA representatives attend Citizenship Conference

ACA was represented at the Fifth National Conference of Citizenship, held May 20-24, 1950, by Dorothea E. Sykes, of Baltimore, and Dr. Denver H. Smoot. The conference theme was "Loyal Citizens in Action—You ARE Your Government." More than 1500 attended the meeting, an inspiring growth from the less than 50 people who attended the first citizenship conference five years ago.

In her report on the conference, Miss Sykes gave pointed quotations from various of the speakers, as well as brief data on a number of small-group discussions. The conferences are sponsored jointly by NEA and the Dept. of Justice.

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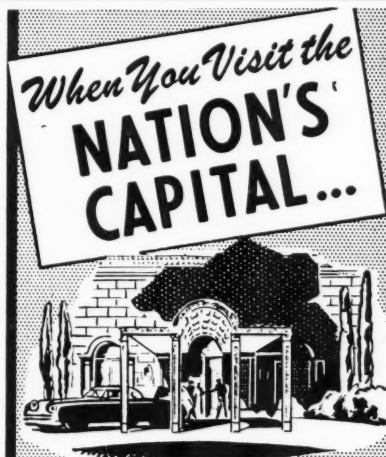
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Camp building restricted by defense agency order

Several weeks ago the National Production Authority issued Order M-4 listing certain recreation building as non-essential to the war effort. Recreational camps, along with amusement parks, dance halls, and other buildings designed for entertainment are limited to \$5,000.00 per project on new construction.

About one month ago, a meeting was held between officials of NPA and the executive directors of several major youth-serving agencies. At that time the NPA officials were advised that (1) most recreational pursuits contributed greatly to national (defense) morale and (2) most camps were as educational as they were recreational.

These officials declined to revise Order M-4 or to reclassify camps. However, they did indicate their willingness to reconsider the status of camping and suggested the executives of the youth-serving agencies draw up a comprehensive statement explaining the educational nature of camping and its essential relationship to the emergency.

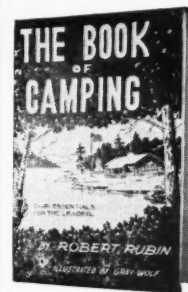
Several ACA's helped formulate the requested statement and it is being forwarded to the Administrator, National Production Authority. As further information develops, it will be disseminated to Section Presidents (for re-publishing in Section Bulletins) or, if of major significance, reported in CAMPING MAGAZINE.

Application for permission to construct must be submitted in writing to Mr. Follin, Chief of Construction and Control Division, National Production Authority, Washington, D. C. It should include name of organization, the purpose, the expense involved for completion, its essentiality, its relationship to the national defense program, the hardship which would ensue if the permit were not granted.

New camp song book ready; compiled by ACA committee

A new group of songs for use at Conventions and by individual camps has been gathered together by the Publications Committee at the request of President Carlson. A small, paper-covered book, easy to handle and light in weight, it contains some original camp songs which may be used by any camp, hymns for gen-

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eral use, folk songs from many countries for "United Nations" singing, a group of negro spirituals, quite a few of the good old songs we all like to sing, and a lot of rounds.

The new songbook is being published at no expense to ACA by the Cooperative Recreation Service, Delaware, Ohio, whose director, Mr. Lynn Rohrbough, has been most helpful in every way.

Sale of the book is our part of the agreement. Your committee feels that it meets a real need and we hope every camp will supply itself with enough copies so that campers everywhere will be singing the same songs. It will mean a real community of music and we all know the value of singing *together*.

The book will be published in time for use at the Regional Conventions and orders may be placed at the ACA Publications Booth at each Convention. You may also order direct from the Cooperative Recreation Service, Delaware, Ohio.

Prices are as follows:

Single copy.....	\$ 25
6 copies	1.00
20 copies, boxed	3.00
100 copies, boxed	13.00
500 copies, boxed	60.00
1000 copies, boxed	100.00

For camps ordering 500 or more, the camp name will be printed on the cover without charge. On cash orders, postage will be prepaid.

Leather Co. Changes Name

Toebe Leathercraft Co. has changed its name to TANART LEATHERCRAFT CO., it was announced recently. The business, devoted exclusively to fine leathers and quality modeling and leathercraft tools and accessories, cut-out projects, prepunched projects, laces, patterns, etc., will continue at 149 North Third St., Philadelphia 6, where Raymond Toebe, owner of the company, has been engaged in leathercraft business for the past 40 years. No change in ownership or management of the business is involved in the change of name. Announcement of the name change is being made in an attractive folder entitled "Everything for Leathercraft", just off the press, which gives a comprehensive preview of Tanart Leathercraft Company's new line of leathercraft supplies. Copies are available on request.

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AFTER TAPS

... the time when directors, leaders, and counselors recall the successes and failures of the day, plan to make tomorrow a better day, and think about the opportunities — seized and missed — of this wonderful thing called camping.

Reunion at Woodcraft

By ALLEN W. MERRIAM, JR.

I have long felt that my 10 summers at camp contributed more to my development from boy to man than either school or college. It, too, ranks first in my memories. Recently, I found that many others feel as I do, a tribute to camping and to the man who is the Chief of the camp we attended.

To celebrate the 25th anniversary of Adirondack Woodcraft Camps, Clearwater, N. Y., the Chief, William H. Abbott, invited back for a weekend in camp the old timers like myself who had been with him during the first 10 years of camp. He had been warned by usually competent advisors that not over 10 or 15 would return. But to the Chief's delight and their surprise, over 75 came back, some travelling more than 500 miles. To us, the Chief is one of the finest "guys" there is and a boy could have no finer opportunity than to spend a summer with him.

As a seasoned veteran of numerous school and college reunions I had cynically concluded that these affairs consisted largely of two activities — drinking and reminiscing. In addition, at some time during the festivities, the need for swelling the coffers of the alumni fund usually was broached as well as what urgent and expensive repairs were contemplated on the old fraternity house. To my delight and satisfaction, this Labor Day past, our camp reunion defied all the time-honored cliches.

One of the remarkable things about this reunion was that time was turned back physically as well as in memory. Men, 27 to 50, lived as they had as campers, 15 to 25 years earlier. Instinctively, we fitted into the old routines, remembering even such small details as break-

ing our bread into four pieces. From the taste of the Cream of Wheat at breakfast to the stories around the campfire at night, all was familiar. We rode horseback, swam, played softball and tennis, canoed, used the craft shops and climbed nearby Bald Mountain. We also rediscovered muscles that had been long forgotten.

Through nearly all of us who were there indulge at one time or another, not one drop of alcoholic refreshment was evident on the camp property during the entire weekend. There were no instructions given against drinking on premises and no previous get-together to decide against it. The high respect for Chief and the traditions of Woodcraft, so firmly instilled in all of us, precluded such a happening.

The weekend concluded, I painfully placed my mortal remains, protesting every move, in my car and bade farewell. As I headed homeward, the words with which Chief had closed the campfires and ceremonies over the years came back to me: "And may the Great Camper above us watch over us until we meet again."

In this, the third "After Taps" page to appear in Camping Magazine, we are glad to bring readers the above article by a former camper, now an adult with children of his own. It is interesting, stimulating, and thrilling to learn, in this first-hand report, how the training of camp life stuck with this man and his contemporaries through periods up to a quarter of a century.

Our thanks to Mr. Merriam for preparing the article, and congratulations to Bill Abbott for thinking up such a fine way to celebrate his camp's silver anniversary.